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Russian leader Vladimir Putin may have accomplished what no other leader in modern history has been able to do: defeat the might of the Jewish lobby and avert all-out war in the Middle East.

Syrian Crisis Exposes Israeli Lobby

• The reason Syria developed bio-weapons in the first place was for defense against Israeli nukes

THE WAY I SEE IT

By Michael Collins Piper

Although Syria's weapons of mass destruction — in this instance, chemical weapons — are now the focus of global media attention, what is largely suppressed in the mainstream media is the "back story" as to why Syria even has chemical weapons in the first place.

On April 17, 2003 veteran *Washington Post* correspondent Walter Pincus, who happens to be Jewish, acknowledged in a story relating to angry claims by the George W. Bush administration — relating to Syria's alleged "weapons of mass destruction" — that Syria had built its arsenal as an "equalizer" and that "Israel's arms spurred [Syria's] fears."

Although, at the time of Pincus's story, Syria had asked for a United Nations resolution calling for nuclear arms inspections all across the Middle East — including Israel — few expected the United States would support Syria's request.

And, of course, the United States did not, despite the official U.S. position that, according to then-Secretary of State Colin Powell, the United States wanted to see the entire Middle East free of weapons of mass destruction.

Pincus's article regarding Syria's drive for a military arsenal designed to counter Israel's nuclear weapons cache was instructive. Pincus wrote:

> Syria's current arsenal of chemical warheads and Scud missiles to deliver them was started more than 30 years ago to counter Israel's development and possession of nuclear weapons, according to present and former U.S. intelligence officials.
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> "They have been developing chemical weapons as a force equalizer with the Israelis," a former senior intelligence analyst said yesterday. "Hafez al-Assad, the present president's father, saw chemicals as a way to threaten the Israelis and an equalizer for their nuclear program."
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> Assad knew, the former analyst said, that "military aid from the Soviets would never be able to match what Israel developed in the nuclear field and received from the U.S."
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> Syria's possession of chemical weapons was an important part of the Bush administration's recent, week-long verbal offensive against Damascus. But it also has brought attention briefly to another highly sensitive issue: the impact that Israel's nuclear arsenal has had on its enemies in the Middle East.
>
> The consensus from Middle East experts is that almost every country in the region has pursued weapons of mass destruction programs — and they have done so primarily because of the arsenal that Israel has built up, said Joseph Cirincione, head of the nonproliferation program of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.
>
> "You can't get rid of chemical or biological or nuclear programs in Arab countries unless you also address the elimination of Israel's nuclear and chemical programs," Cirincione said.

Now, in recent days — despite overwhelming American popular opposition to an attack on Syria in retribution for its purported use of chemical weapons — we have seen the Jewish lobby in America loudly banging the drum for a U.S. military attack on Syria.

On Sept. 4 *The Washington Post* bared the truth in a story quite candidly headlined: "Pro-Israel and Jewish Groups Strongly Back Military Strike Against Syria."

The *Post* article noted that the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, the Anti-Defamation League and the Simon Wiesenthal Center had all endorsed military action against Syria.

Noting that, theretofore, there had been "intense discussion" among pro-Israel partisans about whether they should be open about their concerns, the Post pointed out that that many in the Jewish lobby were "worried" that critics of the proposed attack on Syria were casting it "as a move to protect Israel's interests rather than an action to defend U.S. credibility."

One pro-Israel activist, who spoke in what the newspaper described as "the condition of anonymity" admitted to the Post, "There is a desire to not make this about Israel." In other words, the Jewish lobby would prefer the public not know Israel does indeed have an interest in seeing Syria subjected to American military might.

Later — even after President Obama's address to the nation in which polls show he failed to convince Americans of the need to strike Syria — the *Post* reported on Sept. 10 that AIPAC had nonetheless mobilized its traditionally influential lobbying team — some 300 strong — to continue to besiege members of the House and the Senate demanding they support the attack.

However, despite the infamous Capitol Hill clout of the well-funded Jewish lobby groups, the good news is that public pressure on Congress against another Middle East war is so overwhelming that even the pro-Israel forces are being beaten back.

Now, with Russian President Vladimir Putin's energetic intervention setting the stage for an agreement which seems to be undercutting the Jewish lobby's push for war, it appears that for the first time in many years, that powerful lobby will be defeated.

Nonetheless, many people are still concerned that an angry Israeli leader, Benjamin Netanyahu, may engage in some covert measure such as a "false-flag" terrorist attack on America — to be blamed on Syria or Iran or groups friendly to Syria and Iran — designed to redirect American public opinion.

The bottom line is that recent events have brought into widespread attention the fact that the Jewish lobby in America stands in opposition to the vast majority of the American people, who are saying, "No more U.S. intervention in the Middle East." And many are beginning to see that those interventions have, in fact, been on behalf of Israel — not America.

Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The New Babylon***, ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem: Zionist Power in America*** , ***The Judas Goats: The Enemy Within***, ***Dirty Secrets: Crime, Conspiracy & Cover-Up in the 20th Century***, ***The GOLEM: Israel's Hell Bomb***, and ***Target: Traficant.*** These works can be found at America First Books and First Amendment Books: 1-888-699-NEWS. He has lectured on suppressed topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Russia and Abu Dhabi.

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